

**MEPA Report - DNRC - 2015 Quarter 1
Submitted 4/3/2015**

Title/Project Name:	Project Date:	MEPA Document Type:	Category:	Document Summary:	Proponent or Applicant:	Townships, Ranges, Sections:	Trusts Affected:	Water Source Affected:	County:	Date of Approval:
40A 30106462	10/31/2016	EA	WR	Proposed change is to add two additional stock tanks to an existing groundwater certificate (40A 30007875). A total of five stock tanks will be included in the system. The stock watering system also includes two storage tanks (10,000 and 2,000 gallons) that act as a gravity fed, back-up system in the event the spring or the pump fails.	Joe and Susan Philippi	The point of diversion is a developed spring located in the SENWSE of section 29, T10N R15E of Wheatland County. Two stock tanks are located in section 5, T9N R15E and another existing stock tank is located in section 29. One new stock tank will be added in section 29, and another new stock tank will be in section 32.	N/A	Groundwater	Wheatland	10/31/2016
43BV 30106767	11/1/2016	EA	WR	The Applicant proposes to take 61.66 acres out of irrigation in N2 and N2N2S2 Section 32 T4N R15E and add 43.50 AC in N2, NESE Section 32 T4N R15E and W2W2NW Section 33 T4N R15E. The Applicant is replacing flood irrigation below the Drivdahl Ditch with two center pivot sprinkler systems centered on the historic place of use. Applicant plans to divert 9.0 CFS through the Drivdahl Ditch. No change in diversion or conveyance is proposed. Applicant is requesting a change in the POD for water rights 43BV 116574-00 and 43BV 116575-00 to the headgate on Sweet Grass Creek such that all four water rights would be identical to the change.	Legacy Ranches Partners LP	Sections 32 and 33 T4N R15E	N/A	Sweet Grass Creek	Sweet Grass	11/1/2016
43Q 30104577	11/0/16	EA	WR	The applicant proposes to divert water from groundwater, by means of 16 wells, from January 1 through December 31 at 141.87 GPM up to 30.61 AF, from points in the S2NESE Section 4 T1S R25E, Yellowstone County, for multiple domestic and lawn and garden use from January 1 through December 31. The Applicant proposes to irrigate lawn and garden on 11.02 AC. The place of use is generally located S2NESE Section 4 T1S R25E, Yellowstone County. The proposed wells would provide residential use and water for lawn watering for 16 homes as part of a subdivision in the area west of Dillon.	Verde Meadows 1, Inc.	Section 4 T1S R25E	N/A	Groundwater	Yellowstone	11/7/2016
Hansen Ranch Conifer Encroachment Treatment Project	3/1/2017	EA	AG	The Dillon Unit of the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is proposing to conduct sage grouse habitat restoration work in conjunction with the Hansen Ranch Conifer Encroachment Project in cooperation with the Montana Sage Grouse Oversight Team (MSGOT), the Nature Conservancy (TNC), and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Conifer encroachment has been identified as a considerable threat to sage grouse conservation (80 FR 59858, October 2, 2015). Reducing the prevalence of rangeland-invading trees has been identified as an important objective for this region of Montana. The project is located approximately 7.5 miles south of Grant, Montana (see Attachments A-1 and A-2), and includes DNRC-managed portions of the following sections: 4, 8, and 9, T11S, R12W. Overall, of the 1,300 total acres proposed for treatment across all ownerships, 545 acres within 3 distinct management units would be burned, and 1,296 acres would receive conifer slashing treatment. On DNRC lands within the project area approximately 121 acres would be treated, of which approximately 80 acres would be burned (i.e., portions of sections 8 & 9). Credits generated by the proposal would be available for compensatory mitigation in the future through the Montana Sage Grouse Habitat Program. Credits would be estimated retroactively, upon finalization of a habitat quantification tool, and made available for sale in a mitigation marketplace when the market becomes available.	Dillon Unit, Central Land Office, Montana DNRC	T11S R12W Sections 4, 9, 8, & 16	Common Schools	N/A	Beaverhead	11/7/2016
76LJ 30108766	11/4/2016	EA	WR	The Applicant proposes to divert and use water from Flathead River (Flathead Lake), by means of a pump, from April 15th – October 15th at 25 GPM up to 2.65 AF, from a point in Lot 4 Tract A COS 4442, NWSESE Section 29, Township 25N, Range 19W, Flathead, MT to irrigate one acre of orchard and 0.1 acres of lawn and garden.	Jerry E Manning and Ruth A Wrightsman	Sec 29, T25N, R19W	N/A	Flathead Lake	Flathead	11/4/2016
Bozeman North Park Bald Eagle Nest Removal	11/9/2016	EA	AG	The Bozeman Unit of the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is proposing the North Park Bald Eagle Nest Removal Project. On June 17, 2016, DNRC acquired an incidental take permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) to remove a relatively recently constructed bald eagle nest. The nest is situated in an actively-managed agriculture field in a relatively unsafe location within 150 meters of U.S. Interstate 90 (I-90). The potential for a juvenile or adult bird to be struck and injured or killed while feeding on road-killed carrion along I-90 is relatively high at the site. Should the current nest continue to be used by the pair, their presence also creates a potential liability for DNRC, lessees, and contractors, particularly during the nesting period when nesting eagles are most vulnerable to disturbance. During the egg-laying, incubation and fledgling phases of chick rearing, necessary disturbance-causing activities near the nest could result in nest abandonment by adults and elevated risk of juvenile mortality and subsequent 'take' of the species. Take of bald eagles is prohibited under the federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668-668c) While the timing of some needed construction activities can be regulated, restricting all development activities near the current nest site during the non-nesting period (August 16 to February 1) is not feasible for existing and future uses on this parcel(eg. an existing active agricultural lease, and planned industrial park development within the city limits of Bozeman at this location).	Bozeman Unit, Central Land Office, Montana DNRC	Township 1S Range 5E Section 36	N/A	N/A	Gallatin	11/9/2016
43A 30104827	11/9/2016	Ea	WR	The Applicant proposes to permanently retire 20.8 acres that were historically irrigated in the Wallrock Basin Area, located in the SE of Section 23 and the SW of Section 24, T04 N, R07 E, Gallatin County. The volume of water that was historically used for irrigation will now be used to fill two ponds, located within the footprint of the historic irrigation. The purpose and place of use will be changed for 43A 7013-00. The purpose, place of use, and point of diversion will be changed for 43A 7011-00. A place of storage (the two ponds) will be added to both rights. The ponds will be supplemented with groundwater from wells under Notices of Completion Nos. 43A 30104821 and 43A 70104822.	4 Diamond Ranch at Wallrock LLC	Sections 23 and 23, T04 N, R07 E	N/A	Unnamed Tributary of Wallrock Basin Creek	Gallatin	11/9/2016
Land Use License for temporary road use	11/9/2016	Ea	LUL	Northwestern Energy has requested to utilize an existing access trail across one tract of state land. The access trail will be used to place a directional boring machine to install a gas pipeline under the BNSF RR ROW. The access will only be used for the installation of the gas pipeline. The access crosses approximately 4,260.00' of state land. The proposed LUL #3073335 will be located on existing trails through the above state tract.	Northwestern Energy, 11 East Park, Butte, MT 59701	N2NW4, NW4NE4, Section 36, T32N, R2W	Common Schools	N/A	Toole	11/9/2016

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Willow Ridge Ranch Corp.- Lease Improvement Request for	11/9/2016	EA	AG	Willow Ridge Ranch Co., lessee, of state lease #3669 has requested to renovate existing tame pasture. The lessee plans to chisel the tame pasture 1" to 2" deep in order to break up the Russian Wildrye. This will allow for better water infiltration and increase the productivity of the desirable species. The proposed project area consists of 37.00 acres. The project will be performed this fall, weather permitting. No seeding or interseeding will occur on the project.	Willow Ridge Ranch Corp., C/O Kenneth Tomayer, 1753 North Devon	SW4, Section 3, T34N, R1E Lots 3, 4, S2NW4, SE4, Section 4, T34N, R1E	Common Schools	N/A	Toole	11/9/2016
42J 30107431	11/8/2016	EA	WR	The applicant proposes to divert water from the Powder River, by means of a pump, from May 1 to June 30 at a flow rate of 1.783 CFS up to a volume of 70.7 AF, from a point in the SESWNW Section 5 T4S R52E Powder River County, for irrigation use from May 1 to June 30. The Applicant proposes to irrigate 98 AC. The place of use is generally located approximately 6 miles northeast of Broadus in NE Section 6 and W2W/2NW Section 5 T4S R52E Powder River County.	Mangen Ranch	Sections 5 and 6 T4S R52E	NA	Powder River	Powder River	11/8/2016
Yellowstone River Bundled Pipeline Crossing Easements	1/8/2017	EA	ROW	Phillips 66 Carrier LLC, Yellowstone Pipe Line Company and Cenex Pipeline LLC have all applied for new easements for new Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD) pipeline facilities under the Yellowstone River, located immediately east of Billings. The new pipelines would replace existing facilities that each entity currently has in the same area. These existing pipelines are a part of a 5 pipeline "bundle" that was installed in the early 1990s in a trench in the Yellowstone River.	Phillips 66 Carrier LLC, Yellowstone Pipe Line Company and Cenex Pipeline LLC	Sections 27 and 34, Township 1 North, Range 26 East	Public Land Trust (Navigable Rivers)	N/A	Yellowstone	11/9/2016
43Q 30108370	9/12/2016	EA	WR	The Applicant proposes to change the place of use from 430 acres of center pivot sprinkler irrigation in Sec. 5 and 6, T3N, R31E to 361 acres of center pivot sprinkler irrigation Sec. 32, W2SW Sec. 33 T4N, R31E, NW and E2 Sec. 4, T3N, R31E, Yellowstone County.	Double L Ranch, LLC	Sec. 32, W2SW Sec. 33 T4N, R31E, NW and E2 Sec. 4, T3N, R31E, Yellowstone County.	N/A	Yellowstone River	Yellowstone	11/10/2016
LaMoose Springs Timber Sale	22-Aug-16	Ea	TS	The Kalispell Unit of the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is proposing the LaMoose Springs Timber Sale. The project is located 7 miles southeast of St. Ignatius, MT.	LaMoose Springs Timber Sale	Section 16 T17N R19W	Common Schools	N/A	Lake	11/10/2016
40S 30107209	11/1/2016	EA	WR	This project is to supplement an existing ground water certificate 40S 5745800 and provisional permit 40S 30064320 by increasing the volume of groundwater for Marketing purpose. The Application is for an additional 0 GPM not to exceed 8.2 AF of water annually from January 1 through December 31. The point of diversion and the place of use are located in the SENWSW Section 26 T28N R58E, Roosevelt County. The additional volume will allow for a combined appropriation of 28.2 AF with a flow rate of 90 GPM, which would allow them to meet increased demands due to the expansion of oilfield activity.	LandTech Enterprises LLC	SENWSW Section 26 T28N R58E, Roosevelt County	N/A	Groundwater	Roosevelt	11/10/2016
ML&E NW Cherry Patch 2-5-34N-21E	11/30/2016	EA	OG	Small single derrick drilling rig to drill to 4,456' TD, Upper Bowes Formation test.	Montana Land and Exploration, Inc		N/A	N/A	Blaine	11/15/2016
ML&E Tiger Ridge 14-17-31N-19E	11/30/2016	EA	OG	Small single derrick drilling rig to drill to 3,895' TD, Lower Bowes Formation test.	Montana Land and Exploration, Inc		N/A	N/A	Blaine	11/15/2016
Shayla 34-33 #1H	11/30/2016	EA	OG	Triple derrick rig to drill a single lateral horizontal Bakken Formation test, 20,254'MD/10,019'TVD.	Kraken Operating LLC		N/A	N/A	Roosevelt	11/15/2016
Simmons 21-23	11/30/2016	EA	OG	Triple derrick drilling rig to drill to 7,950' TD, Duperow Formation test.	Fort Worth Operating Company LLC		N/A	N/A	Roosevelt	11/15/2016
Fallon 27-28 #1H	11/30/2016	EA	OG	Triple derrick rig to drill a single lateral horizontal Bakken Formation test, 19,937'MD/10,016'TVD.	Kraken Operating LLC		N/A	N/A	Roosevelt	11/15/2016
909 Pre-Commercial Thin	11/15/2016	EA	FMA	The Montana DNRC is proposing the 909 Pre-Commercial Thinning project approximately 6 miles southwest of Polebridge, Montana. The purpose of the project is to reduce stand density in order to increase growth, vigor and health of the remaining trees.	Montana DNRC	T34N_R21W_sec.21,22,26,27,28,34,35,36	Common Schools, Eastern Montana College, Montana Tech, Pine Hills School, Public Buildings (PB)	N/A	Flathead	11/16/2016
Canyon Ferry Wildlife Management Area Pond Construction Project	11/16/2016	EA	WR	The Applicant proposes to change the place of use and add places of storage to Statement of Claim No. 40259-00. The Applicant proposes to construct two water impoundments approximately 8 acres, and 11.5 acres in size, 11.17 AF and 22.14 AF in capacity respectfully, for wetland habitat. A new secondary diversion will be installed to divert water from the Montana Ditch to the project located in the NE of Section 4, T7N, R2E, Broadwater County. The applicant will retire 69.1 acres of historically irrigated ground.	Montana Ditch Company	Section 4, T7N, R2E	N/A	Missouri River	Broadwater	11/16/2016
43B_30107208_EA	11/17/2016	EA	WR	The Applicant has installed a well and proposes to appropriate up to 35 gallons per minute (GPM) and up to 2.15 acre-feet (AF) per year of water between January 1 and December 31 within the Yellowstone Controlled Groundwater Area (YCGA). Water will be diverted for domestic use and lawn and garden irrigation.	Childrens_Rev_Trust	Township_8S_Range_7E_Section_35	N/A	Groundwater	Park	11/17/2016
43B_30107710	11/17/2016	EA	WR	The Applicant has drilled a well and proposes to appropriate 10 gallons per minute (GPM) up to 1.65 acre-feet (AF) per year of water between January 1 and December 31 within the Yellowstone Controlled Groundwater Area (YCGA). Water will be diverted for domestic use and lawn and garden irrigation.	Freeland_Brewster_Judy	Township_8S_Range_7E_Section_12	N/A	Groundwater	Park	11/17/2016
Alkali Coulee Limited Access Timber Sale	11/17/2016	EA	TS	The Lewistown Unit of the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is proposing the Alkali Coulee Limited Access Timber Sale. The project is located 17 miles northwest of Lewistown. DNRC would selectively harvest approximately 400 MBF (2800 tons) of ponderosa pine sawlogs with an optional harvest of 1000 tons of ponderosa pine pulp from approximately 160 acres.	Lewistown Unit, Northeast Land Office, Montana DNRC	Sec. 36 T18N R16E	Common Schools	N/A	Fergus	11/17/2016
SRI River Holdings Land Exchange with Montana DNRC	11/17/2016	EA	Land	DNRC is proposing to complete a land exchange whereby SRI Ranch would exchange two parcels of land totaling 861.28 acres for two parcels of DNRC land totaling 616 acres. The purpose of the exchange is to resolve trespass and other management issues associated with the DNRC River Parcel, which is an 80-acre inholding within the core of SRI Ranch property, and to provide a safety and privacy buffer to the SRI Ranch residences which are located immediately adjacent to the DNRC Upland Parcel. If this exchange is approved, DNRC would receive net gains in public resources for four of the seven state land exchange criteria set forth in the Montana Board of Land Commissioners Land Exchange Policy and meet the other three criteria.	SRI River Holdings, LLC	W1/2, W1/2 E1/2, NE1/4NE1/4 Section 20 T3S R6W NW1/4 Section 29 T3S R6W E1/2 NE1/4 Section 16 T3S R6W	Common Schools, Eastern Montana College, MSU 2nd Grant, University of Montana	N/A	Madison, Silver Bow	11/17/2016
FWP Clemons Coulee Reservoir Windmill Aerator	11/17/2016	EA	AG	The proponent has requested to place a portable windmill on the Clemons Coulee Reservoir for winter aeration. The windmill will be placed on shore and an air hose will be placed into the water. No permanent structures will be constructed. This is part of the Statement of Agreement between DNRC and FWP for the management of Clemons Coulee Reservoir.	FWP, C/O Dave Yerk, PO Box 746, Choteau, MT 59422	NW4NE4, Section 16, T21N, R6W	Common Schools	N/A	Teton	11/18/2016

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